



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF LOUISIANA STATE FIRE MARSHAL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Woman Dies in Batchelor House Fire

POINTE COUPEE PARISH- State Fire Marshal (SFM) deputies continue their investigation into a weekend house fire that claimed the life of the home's female resident.

Shortly after 10 p.m. on July 23, Pointe Coupee Parish Fire District 1 responded to a call for a residential fire located in the 13000 block of 3rd Street in Batchelor. Firefighters later located the body of a woman in a bedroom.

While official identification and cause of death are pending with the Pointe Coupee Parish Coroner's Office, the victim is believed to be the 61-year-old homeowner.

Following an assessment of the scene, as well as collecting witness statements and evidence, deputies have determined the fire began in the area of the home's laundry room. At this time, while the exact cause of the fire remains undetermined, deputies have not been able to rule out possible electrical malfunction as a contributing factor.

At this time, deputies have been unable to locate any working smoke alarms or home sprinkler systems. Smoke alarms are a proven tool to alert residents to a fire danger in order to escape safely while home fire sprinklers can immediately limit the threat to life and damage to property.

The SFM's Operation Save-A-Life partners with local fire departments to install smoke alarms for free for families that need them most. To learn more about Operation Save-A-Life, or to register for a smoke alarm installation, visit lasfm.org

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